

Application No: 10/670,494
Attorney Docket: 1-24057

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, and 13-15 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend claim 6 as presented below. Also, add new claims 16-28 as presented below.

1 (original). A wheel mounting assembly for mounting a wheel of a wheelchair to a frame part thereof, the frame part including an upper side frame member and a lower side frame member, the wheel mounting assembly comprising:
a connecting member extending generally upwardly and downwardly between the frame members and adapted to be secured thereto; and
a wheel-mounting member extending adjacent the connecting member and secured thereto and to the side frame members, the wheel-mounting member having at least one formation for supporting an axle of the wheel.

2-3 (cancelled).

4 (original). A wheel mounting assembly according to Claim 3 wherein the wheel-mounting member is adapted to be secured in alternative forward or rearward positions relative to the connecting member.

5 (cancelled).

6 (currently amended). A wheel mounting assembly according to Claim 5 1 wherein the wheel-mounting member comprises one or more mounting plates and there is a spacing member between parts of the mounting plates having the apertures therein.

7 (original). A wheel mounting assembly according to Claim 1 wherein the wheel-mounting member comprises portions in a generally L-shaped disposition wherein one of the portions extends upwardly alongside the connecting member and

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another one of the portions is adapted to extend alongside one of the side frame members.

8 (cancelled).

9 (original). A wheel mounting assembly according to Claim 1 where n the connecting member is adapted to receive a back post member of a wheelchair seat.

10 (cancelled).

11 (original). A wheelchair comprising:
a side frame comprising a frame part comprising an upper side frame member and a lower side frame member; and
a wheel mounting assembly for mounting a wheel to the frame part, the wheel mounting assembly comprising:
a connecting member extending generally upwardly and downwardly between the frame members and adapted to be secured thereto; and
a wheel-mounting member extending adjacent the connecting member and secured thereto and to the side frame members, the wheel-mounting member having at least one formation for supporting an axle of the wheel.

12 (original). A wheelchair according to Claim 11 wherein the upper and lower frame members each have an external cross-sectional shape which is non-circular and includes circumferentially spaced portions of a circumscribing circle with remaining portions therebetween which lie within the circle, and wherein the connecting member has receiving formations wherein the upper and lower frame members are received, the receiving formations having an internal cross-sectional shape which cooperates with at least the remaining portions of the external cross-sectional shape of the frame

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members to prevent relative movement between the connecting member and the side frame members about longitudinal axes of the frame members.

13-15 (cancelled).

16 (new). A wheelchair comprising:

a frame having a frame part comprising an upper frame member and a lower frame member, each having a cross-sectional shape that is non-circular with arcuate portions which are circumferentially spaced and joined by flat portions, which are parts of the sides of a square, the arcuate portions forming parts of a circumscribing circle within which the flat portions lie, and

a wheel mounting assembly on the side frame for carrying a wheel relative to the frame,

a connecting member comprising an upright part, a lower socket part through which the lower frame member extends, and an upper socket into which the upper frame member extends, the socket parts having an internal shape that corresponds to the cross-sectional shape of the frame members to fit closely within the socket parts of the connecting member so as to be resistant to relative angular movement therein about the longitudinal axes of the frame parts,

a wheel-mounting member disposed alongside the connecting member, the wheel-mounting member having an upright portion having a number of vertically spaced openings that are able to receive an axle of the wheel; and

an upright rear post received in the upright part of the connecting member, the post carrying a seat back member.

17 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein the connecting member is further structured to be adjustable forward and rearward relative to the frame parts.

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18 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein the connecting member is structured to be fixed in a desired position by fasteners that passed transversely through the socket parts of the connecting member and through transverse apertures in the frame parts.

19 (new). The wheelchair of claim 18 wherein at least of the socket parts has with a lengthwise discontinuity so that, when fasteners are passed transversely through the apertures and tightened, the frame part is clamped therein to provide a secure connection.

20 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein the connecting member further has an attachment part provided with an aperture for the fitting of a smaller wheel.

21 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 further comprises an upwardly facing cradle formation for receiving one end of a seat-supporting member of a cross-brace assembly.

22 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein the wheel-mounting member is a generally L-shaped disposition further comprising a horizontal portion lying alongside the upper socket part of the connecting member,

23 (new). The wheelchair of claim 22 wherein the wheel-mounting member is in the form of an L-shaped plate with free ends of portions of the wheel-mounting member joined by a bracing member.

24 (new). The wheelchair of claim 22 wherein the wheel-mounting member is of triangular configuration.

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25 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein the wheel-mounting member is fitted in either a forwards or rearwards position relative to the connecting member so that the upright part of the wheel-mounting member can lie forward or rearward of the upright part of the connecting member.

26 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein the wheel-mounting member is secured to the connecting member by bolts passing transversely through the wheel-mounting member, the connecting member.

27 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein a spacing member is provided between the upright part of the wheel-mounting member, forward or rearward of the connecting member, the spaced openings of the wheel-mounting member aligning with apertures in the spacing member.

28 (new). The wheelchair of claim 16 wherein the post is provided with a number of spaced transverse apertures and is fixed at the desired height relative to the connecting member by a bolt passing transversely through the connecting member and the post part.